



July 22, 2013

Congressman Rob Bishop  
Attn: Fred Ferguson  
123 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Bishop,

Please find the attached map as a follow up to the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) letter dated March 15, 2013 outlining our priorities for potential public land legislation in Eastern Utah. As indicated in Priority 4 – Hovenweep National Monument Expansion, NPCA supports the expansion of protections around Hovenweep National Monument to incorporate greater protection of the landscape and cultural resources of the area. This could be accomplished through a National Monument expansion or a BLM National Conservation Area designation of the landscape around the monument similar to the BLM’s Canyon of the Ancients National Monument in Colorado. This type of designation would more broadly protect the viewshed, watershed, soundscape, and cultural resources of the area and provide contiguous protection and potential management with the Colorado BLM’s Canyon of the Ancients National Monument.

The attached map indicates potential boundaries for a Hovenweep National Monument expansion or some other designation such as National Conservation Area. The expansion area would include an exchange of private land as well as State Institutional Trust Administration land. This expansion concept was discussed and generally supported during Senator Bennett’s San Juan County public lands legislative effort in 2010.

We are happy to discuss this proposal and provide further details with you and your staff as needed. Thank for you for the opportunity to share our priorities. We look forward to working with you further on this effort.

Sincerely,

David Nimkin  
Regional Director

**Southwest Regional Office**